

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

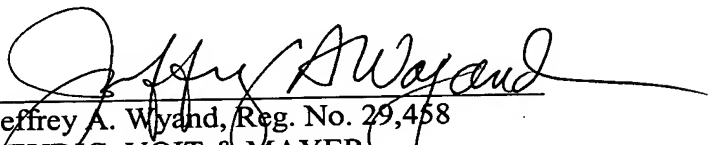
In response to the Office Action mailed May 25, 2005, Applicants elect the alleged embodiment II which encompasses at least claims 8 and 11 and, it is believed, also claims 9, 10, 12, and 13. It is respectfully requested that all of those claims be initially examined. The Examiner indicated that both claims 8, an independent claim, and claim 9, a dependent claim, are generic claims. This designation is not understood. It is understood that claim 8 is generic as to claims 8-13 and that to the extent claim 9, a dependent claim, is generic, that claim is generic to claims 10, 12, and 13.

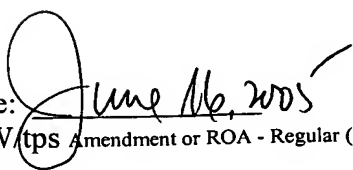
The election is made with traverse because the basis of the restriction is not understood. The application does include three independent claims but the restriction does not seem to be clearly based upon the existence of those claims nor on described embodiments in the patent application. Further explanation of the restriction requirement and reconsideration of the requirement are respectfully requested.

The Office Action included a PTO-1449 form with an indication of consideration of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed simultaneously with the patent application. Applicants respectfully request confirmation in the next communication that the publications indicated as considered have been considered in conjunction with the claims that have been elected. It is unusual that references have been given consideration before examination of any claim on the merits.

Favorable examination of claims 8-13 and of other pending claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: 
JAW/tps Amendment or ROA - Regular (Revised 5-19-05)